

Appl. No. 09/914,526  
Atty. Docket No. 7472  
Amdt. dated 10/03/03  
Reply to Office Action of 6/3/2004  
Customer No. 27752

#### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 - 14 are pending in the application. Claims 9 and 10 are cancelled hereunder without prejudice. Claim 1 is amended hereunder to recite that the detergent active in the particle core comprises a blend of surfactants and dry detergent ingredients wherein the blend of surfactants and dry detergent ingredients comprise a blend of anionic surfactants and alkali metal carbonate. Support for this is Claims 9 and 10 as originally filed. Claim 11 has been amended to change the dependency from Claim 10 to Claim 1. It is submitted that these amendments add no new matter, and entry is requested.

#### Claim Objections

Claim 10 has been objected to for the reason of record stated at page 2 of the Office Action. As this claim now stands cancelled the objection is moot.

#### Rejections Under §§102 or 103

Claims 1 - 3, 6 - 7, 9, and 12-13 stand rejected under §102 as anticipated by, or, in the alternative, under §103 as obvious over EP 0,057,611 (hereinafter "Evans"), for the reasons of record at page 3 and 6 of the Office Action.

Claims 10 - 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Evans for the reasons of record stated at page 3 and 6 of the Office Action.

Claims 1, 8, and 12 - 14 stand rejected under §102 as anticipated by, or, in the alternative, under §103 as obvious over WO 95/28469 (hereinafter "Jeffrey") for the reasons of record stated at page 5 of the Office Action.

Claims 1 - 3, 8 - 9, and 12 - 14 stand rejected under §102 as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under §103 as obvious over GB 1,387,167 (hereinafter GB '167) for the reasons of record stated at page 4 of the Office Action.

Claims 1 - 2, 6 - 7, and 9 - 13 stand rejected under §102 as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under §103 as obvious over EP 0,353,976 (hereinafter "Maden") for the reasons of record stated at page 4 of the Office Action.

Claims 1 - 3, 6 - 9, 12 - 13 stand rejected under §102 as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under §103 as obvious over U.S. 5,707,953 (hereinafter "Van't Land") for the reasons of record stated at page 5 of the Office Action.


Claims 4 - 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over GB '167 as applied to the claims, and further in view of Brichard for the reasons of record stated at pages 5 and 6 of the Office Action.

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Claims 9 and 10 are cancelled hereunder without prejudice. The rejections are traversed as far as they relate to the claims remaining in the instant application. It is believed that the amendments overcome the Examiner rejections. None of the references teach or suggest either expressly or implicitly a particle core *inter alia* which is an agglomerate having a surface with irregularities and crevices and a particle coating at least partially covering the particle core wherein the particle core comprises a water soluble coating wherein the particle layer comprises a water soluble coating material, wherein the particle coating layer provides a surface area reduction of at least about 10% and wherein said detergent active material in said particle core a blend of surfactants and dry detergent ingredients which comprise a blend of anionic surfactants and alkali metal carbonates.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all rejections. Early and favorable action in the case is requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mort III et al.

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